

Goh Wei Ling (09), 308

### **This I Believe**

**There's a solution to every problem.**

"Every problem has in it the seeds of its own solution" - Norman Vincent Peale. If I were to chance upon a dead end, I would think that it is time to walk a new path. To me, the end of a path does not signify the end of the journey for I believe that every problem has its own solution.

I had always been a timid person who panicked due to the slightest issue that did not go my way. I was, and still am, afraid of how others would judge me and care way too much about first impressions. Just a few weeks ago, I forgot to bring my council camp tee to school that was needed for secondary one orientation. It was a grave mistake as it would make me look bad in front of my seniors and I kept thinking of the various cold treatments I would receive. I honestly thought there was no hope and I would be forever trapped in the bad impressions that others formed of me. There seemed to be no solution to this problem I had on my hands.

I was anxious and worried endlessly about the situation. As a result, I snapped at my classmates who had queries on their homework and ignored my friends who came to look for me in class. I had let my emotions get the better of me. My crisis was only solved when my classmate kindly reminded me that I could ask my mother to bring it for me.

After thanking my classmate profusely, I called my mother. I felt both relieved and silly afterwards. I had wasted so much energy panicking yet the problem was solved easily with a phone call. Yes, forgetting to bring a shirt might not be such a big deal compared to life-and-death situations, but that incident taught me something important. I was convinced that if I were to have enough faith in myself and stop dwelling on the mistakes I made, I would be able to resolve the complication.

I have experienced many cases that are similar to that day's incident. Problems always arise in my life, sometimes out of nowhere and sometimes I am the cause of it. I came to realise that if I were the creator of the problem, it is my duty to resolve any complications that surfaced due to my moment of folly. If I were to doubt the belief that a solution and a problem come in a pair, it would be irresponsible of me. Thus, the reason why I want to hold onto this belief is partly due to the obligation and responsibility it brings out of me.

This belief constantly reminds me that I cannot simply walk out of the mess I created. It provides comfort for me whenever I encounter problems for I know there is always a way for me to make things better.

There's a solution to every problem.

You just got to find it.

(499 words)